



Inside Ag November 2008

Registration Date Change for Anhydrous Ammonia Tanks

The Anhydrous Ammonia Safety Program ensures that this important agricultural fertilizer is safely stored, transported, and used. Anhydrous ammonia, when used as a fertilizer, can present significant safety problems if improperly handled or if the equipment used to store and transport it is not properly maintained.

During the 2008 Colorado Legislative Session, the Anhydrous Ammonia Law (35-13 C.R.S) was amended. The most significant change in this law was for the registration requirements. The amendment, which became effective on August 5, 2008, requires all tanks used for the storage or transport of anhydrous ammonia to be registered with the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) before they can be filled or delivered and authorized the Commissioner of Agriculture to establish by rule the tank registration dates. Rulemaking was needed to establish the registration date and correct typographical errors that occurred when the current rule was converted from hardcopy to electronic format.

The anhydrous ammonia rulemaking hearing was held on October 1, 2008. On October 14, the proposed rule was presented to the Colorado Agricultural Commission who forwarded to Commissioner Stulp for adoption. The amended rule is available on the <u>CDA website</u>.

The rule changes become effective on November 30, 2008. The anhydrous ammonia tank registration date will be **January 1, 2009**. This is a change from the current registration date of July 1.

The CDA Division of Inspection and Consumer Services (ICS), Anhydrous Ammonia Safety Program also reviews proposed storage site plans to ensure that safety requirements are met. ICS inspectors perform safety inspections at anhydrous ammonia bulk storage sites and on the transport tanks used to apply the product. These inspections provide safety protection for anhydrous ammonia users and the general public.

Information about this program, including anhydrous ammonia site and tank registration forms and requirements, can be found on the ICS Anhydrous Ammonia Website.

Please contact Pat Johnson, Fertilizer Program Administrator, at (303) 867-9204 or email pat.johnson@ag.state.co.us, if you have any questions or need more information.